

respective Member of the select Committee for whom the employee will serve as the designated representative on the select Committee.

"(b) The select Committee shall be afforded a supplement to its budget, to be determined by the Committee on Rules and Administration, to allow for the hire of each employee who fills the position of designated representative to the select Committee. The designated representative shall have office space and appropriate office equipment in the select Committee spaces. Designated personal representatives shall have the same access to Committee staff, information, records, and databases as select Committee staff, as determined by the Chairman and Vice Chairman.

"(c) The designated employee shall meet all the requirements of relevant statutes, Senate rules, and committee security clearance requirements for employment by the select Committee.

"(d) Of the funds made available to the select Committee for personnel—

"(1) not more than 60 percent shall be under the control of the Chairman; and

"(2) not less than 40 percent shall be under the control of the Vice Chairman."

(h) **NOMINEES.**—S. Res. 400 is amended by adding at the end the following:

"SEC. 17. (a) The select Committee shall have jurisdiction for reviewing, holding hearings, and reporting the nominations of civilian persons nominated by the President to fill all positions within the intelligence community requiring the advice and consent of the Senate.

"(b) Other committees with jurisdiction over the nominees' executive branch department may hold hearings and interviews with such persons, but only the select Committee shall report such nominations."

(i) **JURISDICTION.**—Section 3(b) of S. Res. 400 is amended to read as follows:

"(b)(1) Any proposed legislation reported by the select Committee except any legislation involving matters specified in clause (1) or (4)(A) of subsection (a), containing any matter otherwise within the jurisdiction of any standing committee shall, at the request of the chairman of such standing committee, be referred to such standing committee for its consideration of such matter and be reported to the Senate by such standing committee within 10 days after the day on which such proposed legislation, in its entirety and including annexes, is referred to such standing committee; and any proposed legislation reported by any committee, other than the select Committee, which contains any matter within the jurisdiction of the select Committee shall, at the request of the chairman of the select Committee, be referred to the select Committee for its consideration of such matter and be reported to the Senate by the select Committee within 10 days after the day on which such proposed legislation, in its entirety and including annexes, is referred to such committee.

"(2) In any case in which a committee fails to report any proposed legislation referred to it within the time limit prescribed in this subsection, such Committee shall be automatically discharged from further consideration of such proposed legislation on the 10th day following the day on which such proposed legislation is referred to such committee unless the Senate provides otherwise, or the Majority Leader or Minority Leader request, prior to that date, an additional 5 days on behalf of the Committee to which the proposed legislation was sequentially referred. At the end of that additional 5 day period, if the Committee fails to report the proposed legislation within that 5 day period, the Committee shall be automatically discharged from further consideration of

such proposed legislation unless the Senate provides otherwise.

"(3) In computing any 10 or 5 day period under this subsection there shall be excluded from such computation any days on which the Senate is not in session.

"(4) The reporting and referral processes outlined in this subsection shall be conducted in strict accordance with the Standing Rules of the Senate. In accordance with such rules, committees to which legislation is referred are not permitted to make changes or alterations to the text of the referred bill and its annexes, but may propose changes or alterations to the same in the form of amendments."

(j) **PUBLIC DISCLOSURE.**—Section 8 of S. Res. 400 is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking "shall notify the President of such vote" and inserting "shall—

"(A) first, notify the Majority Leader and Minority Leader of the Senate of such vote; and

"(B) second, consult with the Majority Leader and Minority Leader before notifying the President of such vote.";

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking "transmitted to the President" and inserting "transmitted to the Majority Leader and the Minority Leader and the President"; and

(C) by amending paragraph (3) to read as follows:

"(3) If the President, personally, in writing, notifies the Majority Leader and Minority Leader of the Senate and the select Committee of his objections to the disclosure of such information as provided in paragraph (2), the Majority Leader and Minority Leader jointly or the select Committee, by majority vote, may refer the question of the disclosure of such information to the Senate for consideration."

TITLE III—COMMITTEE STATUS

SEC. 301. COMMITTEE STATUS.

(a) **HOMELAND SECURITY.**—The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs shall be treated as the Committee on Governmental Affairs listed under paragraph 2 of rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate for purposes of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

(b) **INTELLIGENCE.**—The Select Committee on Intelligence shall be treated as a committee listed under paragraph 2 of rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate for purposes of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

TITLE IV—INTELLIGENCE-RELATED SUBCOMMITTEES

SEC. 401. SUBCOMMITTEE RELATED TO INTELLIGENCE OVERSIGHT.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—There is established in the Select Committee on Intelligence a Subcommittee on Oversight which shall be in addition to any other subcommittee established by the select Committee.

(b) **RESPONSIBILITY.**—The Subcommittee on Oversight shall be responsible for ongoing oversight of intelligence activities.

SEC. 402. SUBCOMMITTEE RELATED TO INTELLIGENCE APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—There is established in the Committee on Appropriations a Subcommittee on Intelligence. The Committee on Appropriations shall reorganize into 13 subcommittees as soon as possible after the convening of the 109th Congress.

(b) **JURISDICTION.**—The Subcommittee on Intelligence of the Committee on Appropriations shall have jurisdiction over funding for intelligence matters, as determined by the Senate Committee on Appropriations.

TITLE V—EFFECTIVE DATE

SEC. 501. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This resolution shall take effect on the convening of the 109th Congress.

ANTI-SECESSION LAW OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Mr. **ROCKEFELLER.** Mr. President, on March 14 the National Congress of the People's Republic of China passed a bill termed the "Anti-Secession" law that preemptively positions China to take military action should it judge Taiwan to be moving toward formal independence. While the threat of force from Beijing is not new, legislation that refers to "non-peaceful means," even described as a "last resort" can only be seen as counterproductive. At a minimum, it is not conducive to building confidence between Taiwan and China nor facilitating dialogue, which are key to future stability in the straits and to peace and prosperity for both sides. This is not an issue that can be successfully resolved through military means. All would lose.

The timing of this law is equally unfortunate. Since the beginning of this year, Chinese and Taiwanese officials have taken concrete, pragmatic steps to build better relations—such as direct flights, shipping links, and increased trade. There have also been gestures of personal respect and there has been a lowering of the rhetorical temperature, on both sides. These are heartening developments. I encourage both parties to seek to expand upon them. I am convinced that this is the right road for China and Taiwan, to focus on mutually beneficial programs and to continue to create opportunities for more personal contacts.

In contrast, the Anti-Secession law is awkward and unhelpful. While I recognize that it also does stress the chance for peaceful settlement of the Taiwan issue, its thrust, coupled with an ongoing Chinese military build-up, will be viewed by Taiwan as inimical. I urge the Chinese government to move beyond this legislation, and this moment, and to demonstrate its good faith intent to work toward renewed discussions and better relations. If Beijing does so, certainly I hope that Taipei will respond in kind.

IN HONOR OF WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Mrs. **FEINSTEIN.** Mr. President, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month to recognize the advancements that women have made this year and to reflect on the challenges and opportunities for the years ahead.

We have set aside this month to formally pay tribute to the contributions of women in the United States and around the world.

I would like to start by paying tribute to the women in Iraq and Afghanistan who are working to build their countries and to make a better life for themselves and their families. These women have been freed from oppressive regimes and as their nations rebuild now must secure their rights for all time.

Women throughout the Arab World are making their way into public life.

In some countries, they are being elected to office, named to cabinet-level posts and appointed to leading positions in powerful civil society organizations—these are the thought-leaders and the pioneers. But there is another, parallel movement that has also begun: the quiet leadership of ordinary women who are doing extraordinary things.

On January 30, scores of Iraqi women poured into polling stations in cities and rural communities. Braving bullets, bombs, and substantial personal threat, they joined their fellow countrymen to vote in the nation's first free election, an act that warrants our deepest respect.

When I reflect on their courage, I realize that in the United States we have no point of reference to understand what they must have felt on that Monday in January. Though the women in our Nation have fought and continue to fight for justice and equal opportunity, the trip from our homes to the voting booth has never involved a life or death decision. The fact that 8 million people, 60 percent of whom were women according to some estimates, chose to risk their lives to vote is, quite frankly, astounding to me.

These women have grasped at democracy and they now clench it with tightened fists. I think we can learn something from this. I would like to call attention to their sacrifices and to highlight the lessons that their courage can teach women in the United States and around the world.

It is easy to take for granted today, but women in America also had to fight for the right to vote. After a decades' long struggle, women finally secured the right to vote in 1920 and since that time women have made incredible advancements.

Women have risen to the top of Fortune 500 companies and fill the domes of capitol and the halls of universities—today approximately 56 percent of college students are female, compared to 44 percent in 1973. The wage gap, however, is still alarming. Women who work full-time earned about 79.5 cents on the dollar compared to their male counterparts in 2003.

Women are a true political force and continue to contribute every day all across this country. In the years that I have been in politics, women have changed the face of American politics.

Issues that were once relegated to the back burner—education, health care, children, and seniors—are now at the top of America's political agenda.

Since I was first elected to the Senate in 1992, we have made remarkable progress for women by:

- Increasing breast cancer research funding by 800 percent;

- Tripling funding for domestic abuse shelters;

- Raising lending to women through the Small Business Administration;

- Passing the Family and Medical Leave Act and the Violence against Women Act;

- Covering mammogram screening for Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries;

- Extending maternity hospitalization to 48 hours; and

- Requiring health care companies to fund breast reconstruction after mastectomies.

We have come a long way, but we still have a long way to go.

That is why I am cosponsoring the Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution. This amendment is essential to guarantee that the rights and freedoms granted by our Founding Fathers apply equally to men and women.

In addition, women's reproductive rights are under attack in Congress like never before, and I remain deeply committed to protecting a woman's right to choose guaranteed by *Roe v. Wade*. I also believe that it is extremely important that we reduce the number of unintended pregnancies and abortions.

I have spoken on this issue before and it is something that I feel very strongly about. Recently, we have seen considerable setbacks in the battle for reproductive rights and I fear that the advances we have fought so hard for are now threatened.

I am part of a generation of women who remember a time when a woman did not have the right to decide when and if she would give birth. I will not stand by and let us return to that time.

The decline of our rights under this administration has been slow but steady. Subtle encroachments occur either through the high-profile path of judicial appointments or through the silent passageways of regulations, obscure amendments tacked on to large bills, or grant limitations.

The current administration has systematically chipped away at the rights of women, and they have done so shielded from public scrutiny by employing these quiet forms of repression and intimidation. I am here to say: we have noticed, we are paying attention and we will fight.

These are issues that affect every woman in the United States. Let us not become complacent. Let us take inspiration from the women in Iraq who risked their lives to exercise their rights as we continue the struggle to defend our own. The time for basking in the glory of past achievements has passed; this is a battle that must be fought by the everyday women warriors. It is time to roll up our sleeves and get back to work.

Because of the women who have come before us, we are fortunate to participate in our democratic system of justice. We cannot take that opportunity and responsibility for granted.

THE PRENATALLY DIAGNOSED CONDITIONS AWARENESS ACT

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I recently introduced S. 609, the Prenatally-diagnosed Conditions Awareness Act, with my colleague, the senior Senator from Massachusetts. This bill will accomplish the following:

- One, ensure that pregnant women facing a positive prenatal test result

- will be more likely to receive up-to-date, scientific information about the life expectancy, clinical course, intellectual and functional development, and prenatal and postnatal treatment options for their child;

- Two, provide pregnant women referrals to support services such as hotlines, Web sites, information clearinghouses, registries of families willing to adopt babies with disabilities, and parent-to-parent programs where people with children with disabilities meet with the newly diagnosed family to provide support and real-world information;

- Three, improve epidemiologic understanding of prenatally-diagnosed conditions, within a strict set of confidentiality protections;

- Four, support health care providers who perform prenatal tests and deliver results; and

- Five, authorize a study of the effectiveness of existing health care and family support services for children with disabilities and their families.

The need for this legislation and the public dialogue I hope it encourages could not be more urgent. Medical science has provided the opportunity to obtain a massive amount of information about our own bodies and health and that of our children. But I am concerned that our ethical dialogue has not kept pace with new ethical challenges. We have been able to screen for certain conditions in the womb for quite some time now, but I am concerned that we don't have a great track record for handling that information very well. For some conditions that can be detected in the womb, such as Down Syndrome, we are aborting 80 percent or more of the babies who test positive. The effect of this sort of "weeding out" represents a sort of new eugenics, a form of systematic, disability-based discrimination.

Worse, trends suggest that this atrocity doesn't just end in the womb. The Netherlands has recently enacted policies that make it acceptable for doctors to end the lives of terminally ill children up to age 12, resulting in about 100 cases of pediatrician-induced homicides of children with severe handicaps each year. Belgium is considering similar policies. Unfortunately, these policies are starting to trickle into our own country. In Texas, a court recently upheld a hospital's decision to remove life support from a 6-month-old handicapped baby, against his mother's wishes.

It sounds too crazy to be true, but it is not just fringe thinking—leading so-called ethics experts have supported the killing of children with disabilities, such as Princeton Professor Peter Singer, who wrote in 1993 in his book *Practical Ethics*, "killing a defective infant is not morally equivalent to killing a person . . . sometimes it is not wrong at all." These ideas echo back to Nazi Germany, and, unfortunately, there is a tragic history, even in our own country, of abuse of institutionalized people with disabilities, only